IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of communicating between a drilling rig and at least one off-site location, the method comprising:

providing a human-portable data communications module to a person on the drilling rig;

establishing an at least two-way data communication connection between the portable data communications module and the at least one off-site location via the Internet;

drilling a wellbore to an oil and/or gas bearing formation; and

monitoring activities on the drilling rig via the portable communications module and the at least two-way data communication connection by a person at the off-site location.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising directing the activities at the drilling rig via the portable communications module and the at least two-way data communication connection by the off-site person.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining positional information of the person on the drilling rig and monitoring the positional information at the off-site location.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring the activities comprise the sensing of conditions within the wellbore.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the person on the drilling rig performing a procedure related to the activities; and recording and billing the procedure.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring the activities comprises diagnosing a problem with the activities.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the activities comprise recovering at least a portion of a damaged or obstructed drill string in the wellbore.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein monitoring the activities comprises monitoring data transmitted from at least one sensor located in the wellbore.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the sensor in the wellbore gathers information related to the condition of the drill string.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises providing a computer on the drilling rig, wherein the at least two-way data communication connection is established through the computer.

11. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the positional information is determined by GPS equipment.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising comparing a GPS signal to a database to automatically identify a source of the data transmission.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said portable communications module automatically utilizes the communication connection to transmit data including status, usage, and location to a rental center according to a predetermined schedule.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the portable communications module is worn by, or attached to, the person on the drilling rig.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the portable communications module is detachably attached to a skull-protective hardhat that is worn by the person on the drilling rig.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring the activities comprises measuring or recording lengths of tubulars and the activities comprise assembling the tubulars to form a tubular string.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein monitoring the activities comprises recording the lengths of tubulars by scanning barcodes or RFID tags.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the activities comprise assembling tubulars to form a tubular string and monitoring the activities comprises measuring torque developed between adjacent tubulars being assembled together.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein log-on data facilitates an automatic recordal for billing of the time that the hardhat is used.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the person on the drilling rig can manually position the communications module.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications module comprises an external camera.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the communications module comprises a GPS equipment physically connected to the hard hat.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the hard hat has a "flip down" screen for visual display of data.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising providing a computer on the drilling rig, wherein the at least two-way data communication connection is established through the computer.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the computer records data related to the activities and the method further comprises reviewing data relating to past activities from the computer by the person at the off-site location.

27.--49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising communicating information relating to the activities from the drilling rig to the off-site person in response to instructions received from the off-site person.

51.—54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising recording usage data regarding the communications module.

56-68. (Canceled)

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining whether there is a request to establish a connection with the off-site person located at a specific off-site computer.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69, further comprising determining the specific off-site computer to establish the connection with.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70, further comprising receiving positional information of the communications module.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring the activities comprises transferring input information from the communications module to the off-site location.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein monitoring the activities further comprises transferring instruction information from the off-site location to the communications module.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein monitoring the activities further comprises following an operation, by the person at the drilling rig, indicated by the instruction information to obtain result information.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein monitoring the activities further comprises transferring the result information from the communications module to the off-site location.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein monitoring the activities further comprises analyzing the result information at the off-site location to make a determination.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, wherein monitoring the activities further comprises transferring the determination from the off-site location to the communications module.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising drilling the wellbore through the oil and/or gas bearing formation.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the connection is real time.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising communicating one or more procedures from the off-site person to the person on the drilling rig.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein the one or more procedures comprise an assembly drawing, a picture of a part, a video of an installation procedure, or a training session.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein the one or more procedures comprise a schematic drawing of a part or machine, critical dimensions of a part or machine, or checklist or video clip showing how to use a part or machine.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the part or machine is a tong.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the part or machine is fishing equipment.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 82, wherein the part or machine is a parameter measuring device.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, further comprising the person at the drilling rig performing the one or more procedures.

87.—92. (Canceled)

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the activities are drilling activities.

94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the tubulars are drill pipe and the tubular string is a drill string.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the tubulars are casing and the tubular string is a casing string.